

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A system for journaling activity in a data processing system comprising:
 a sensor for capturing atomic level events; and
 an aggregator, for accepting multiple atomic level events and
 generating a journal event.
- 10 2. A system as is claim 1 wherein the journal events are associated with a
 particular executing process.
3. A system as is claim 2 wherein the executing process is associated with a
 particular user.
- 15 4. A system as in claim 1 additionally comprising:
 a filter for filtering atomic level events with an approved event
 list.
5. A system as is claim 4 wherein the approved event list includes a list of
20 approved file identifiers.
6. A system as in claim 4 wherein the file identifiers are a hash code.
7. A system as in claim 1, wherein the sensor is located within a client
25 agent and the aggregator is located within a server.
8. A system as in claim 7 additionally comprising:
 a coalescer for coalescing atomic events output by the sensor
 prior to inputting them to the aggregator.

9. A system as in claim 8 wherein a bundle of coalesced events is created prior to their transmission between the agent and the server.
- 5 10. A system as in claim 8 wherein sequence numbers are added to bundles.
11. A system as in claim 1 wherein a journal event is detected as a suspect action with a data file.
- 10 12. A system as in claim 1 wherein an event is attributable to a known user, thread and/or application as identified at a known time.
13. A system as in claim 8 wherein the coalescer reports an event after a time out period with no activity.
- 15 14. A system as in claim 1 wherein journal events are used to control security of the data processing system.
- 20 15. A system as in claim 1 wherein the journal events are used to provide a perimeter of accountability at a point of system use.
16. A system as in claim 15 wherein a point of use is a user desktop and accountability is of data files.
- 25 17. A method for journaling activity in a data processing system comprising:
capturing atomic level events; and
aggregating multiple atomic level events to generate a journal event.

18. A method as in claim 17 additionally comprising:
filtering atomic level events with an approved event list.
- 5 19. A method as in claim 18 where the approved event list includes a list of approved file identifiers.
20. A method as in claim 17 wherein the step of sensing atomic level events is located within a client agent and the step of aggregating multiple atomic level events occurs within a server.
- 10 21. A method as in claim 20 additionally comprising:
coalescing atomic events output by the sensing step prior to providing them to the aggregating step.
- 15 22. A method as in claim 21 where a bundle of coalesced events is created prior to a step of transmitting them between the client agent and the server.